



BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.
P.O. Box 196612
900 East Benson Boulevard
Anchorage, AK 99519-6612

By Certified Mail 7006 3450 0002 1523 7081

April 25, 2007

Mr. James Helfinstine, AK Bridge Program Administrator
Commander, 17th Coast Guard District OAN
P.O. Box 25517
Juneau, Alaska 99802-5517

Section 9 Bridge Permit Application
New Sagavanirktok (Sag) River Vehicle Bridge
Liberty Development Project

Dear Mr. Helfinstine:

BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. (BPXA) is requesting U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) approval under Section 9 of the Rivers and Harbors Act for the construction of a potential new bridge crossing the west branch of the Sagavanirktok ("Sag") River. The Sag River Bridge currently crosses the west branch of the Sag River, approximately 9 miles upstream of the mouth of the Sag River on the North Slope of Alaska located in T10N, R15E, Section 3, Umiat Meridian.

BPXA submitted a copy of the Liberty Development Project, Project Description dated December 2006 ("Project Description") to the USCG on December 22, 2006. On March 20, 2007, BPXA submitted a draft Section 9 permit application to the USCG requesting USCG assessment on the completeness of the draft permit application material.

At this time, BPXA has not made a decision on the road bridge and whether to replace the existing bridge superstructure or build a new bridge in order to mitigate the risk of prolonged bridge closure or capacity derating that could adversely affect the Liberty drilling operations. Further, upgrade of the existing bridge will require negotiations and agreement of the Prudhoe Bay Unit (PBU) working interest owners (WIO).

For purposes of this application, the information provided on the new bridge shows two traffic lanes. However, a single-lane bridge may be adequate for project needs.

Should BPXA elect to construct a new bridge, it would be installed approximately 50 ft. upstream of the existing bridge location. The overall bridge span would be approximately 760 ft. The bridge would have a 175 ton capacity with up to two traffic lanes. The bridge girder bottom elevation would be +23 feet (MLLW) vs. +22 feet for the existing bridge. New ice breaking piers would be installed immediately upstream of the new bridge. The piers on the new bridge will align with the existing pier spacing on the pipeline bridge located approximately 200 ft. downstream of the existing bridge. This arrangement will ensure that ice blocks created during break-up will pass freely between the pipeline bridge piers.

The *Liberty Development Project Development and Production Plan* (April 2007) (DPP) Section 9.2.3, submitted to your office under separate cover, provides more information about bridge construction.

For your information, the existing bridge was originally built by ARCO in 1975 under USCG Bridge Permit 118-74 (attached). The original bridge completion report was submitted to the USCG in 1977 and was provided to you in the previously submitted draft application along with the permitting history.

BPXA will be submitting an Alaska Statute (AS) 38.05.850 easement application to ADNIR/DOG for the potential new Sag River Bridge.

If BPXA elects to construct a new bridge, the work would be conducted in the winter of 2009-2010. Project funding is provided by BPXA. No federal funds will be used for this project.

There are no publicly owned lands from a park, recreational area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge in the way of the bridge. No known or expected land of historic or archaeological value is in the area of the bridge. However, BPXA will conduct an archeological and cultural resources assessment during the summer of 2007. The project will not result in displacement or relocation of residences or businesses and will not affect minority or low-income populations.

In support of this request, attached are the following:

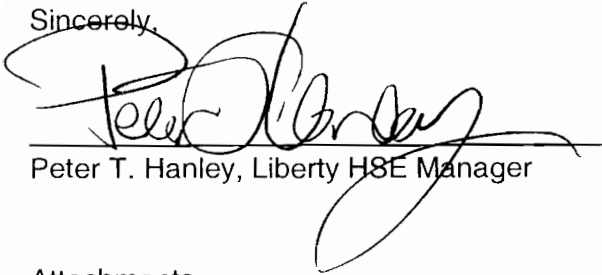
- Figures 1 - 5

The following document is appended to the final DPP submitted under separate cover:

- Environmental Impact Assessment (April 2007), and
- Coastal Project Questionnaire and Certification Statement.

If you have any questions concerning this submittal or require additional information, please contact Cash Fay at (907) 339-5067 or email cash.fay@bp.com.

Sincerely,

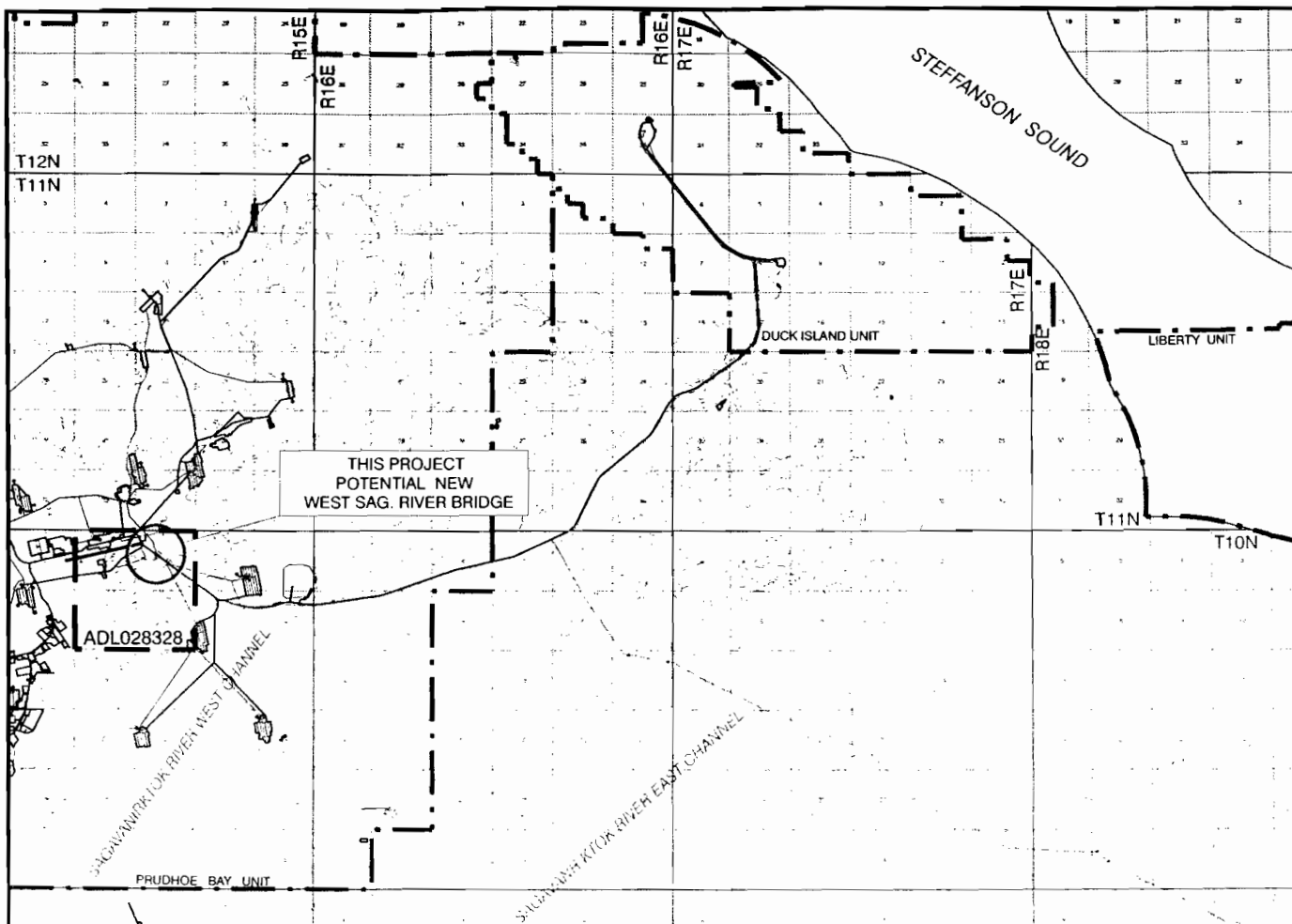
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter T. Hanley", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter T. Hanley, Liberty HSE Manager

Attachments

cc: w/o attachments

Larry Bright, USFWS/Fairbanks
Ben Greene, ADNR/OPMP
Michiel Holley, USACE
Don Perrin, ADNR/OPMP
Ted Rockwell, EPA
Brad Smith, NMFS
Dianne Soderlund, EPA
Jeff Walker, MMS



This map is based on U.S.G.S. quad Beechey Point (A-2, A-3, B-2, B-3) and on the Unit Operator's Facility Maps.



PROJECT LOCATION:

PRUDHOE BAY UNIT - SAG. RIVER NEW BRIDGE OPTION
NAD 83

LAT. = $70^{\circ} 14' 59.11''$

LONG. = $-148^{\circ} 18' 18.66''$

ALASKA STATE PLANE ZONE 4, NAD 83

X = 1,850,161.80 FEET

Y = 5,943,679.20 FEET

ADL 028328 SEC. 3 T10N, R15E

DATUM: MEAN SEA LEVEL

PURPOSE: SAGAVANIRKTOK RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNER: STATE OF ALASKA

COUNTY: NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH

IN: STEFFANSON SOUND / BEAUFORT SEA

NEAR / AT: SAGAVANIRKTOK RIVER

BRIDGE LOCATION MILE POST: 9.0 SAGAVANIRKTOK RIVER

APPLICANT: BP EXPLORATION ALASKA, INC.

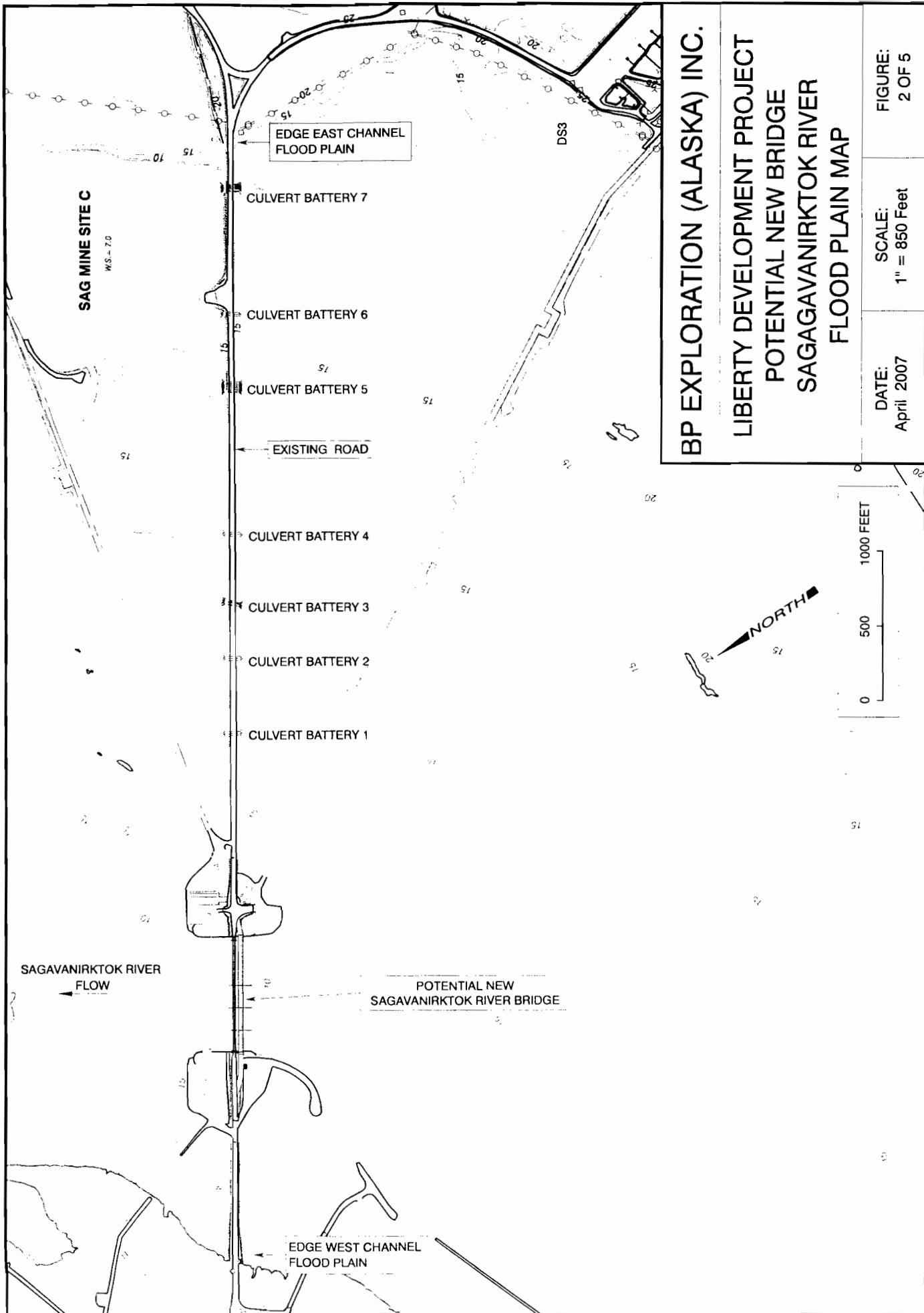
BP EXPLORATION (ALASKA) INC.

**LIBERTY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
SAGAVANIRKTOK RIVER BRIDGE
VICINITY MAP**

DATE:
April 2007

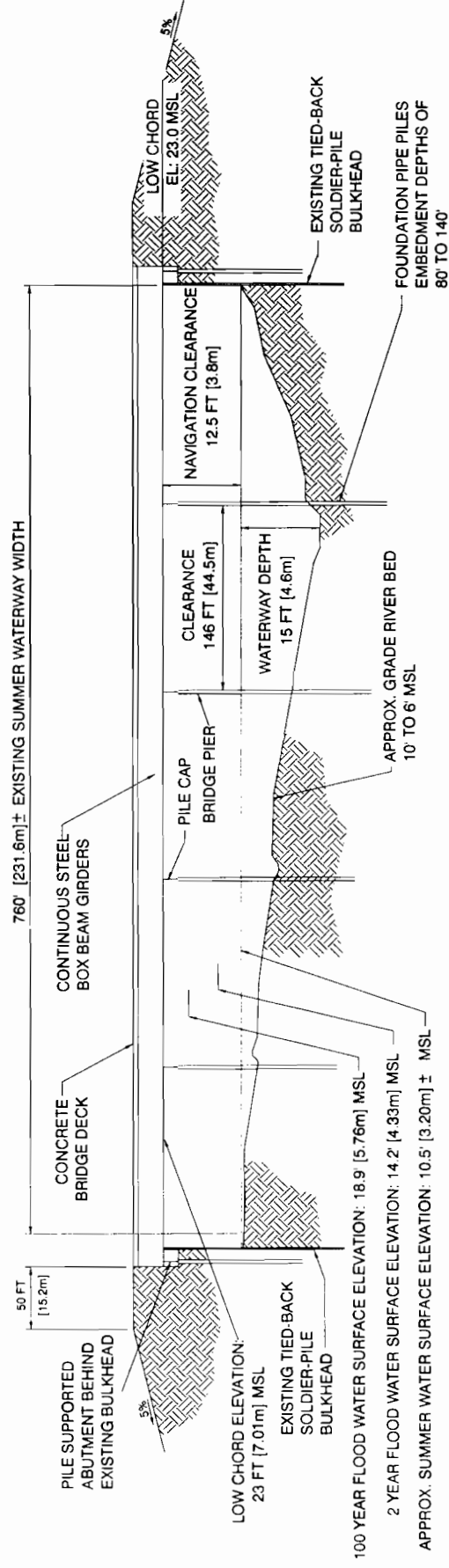
SCALE:
1" = 3 Miles

FIGURE:
1 OF 5



WEST

EAST



VEHICLE BRIDGE ELEVATION AT CENTER LINE

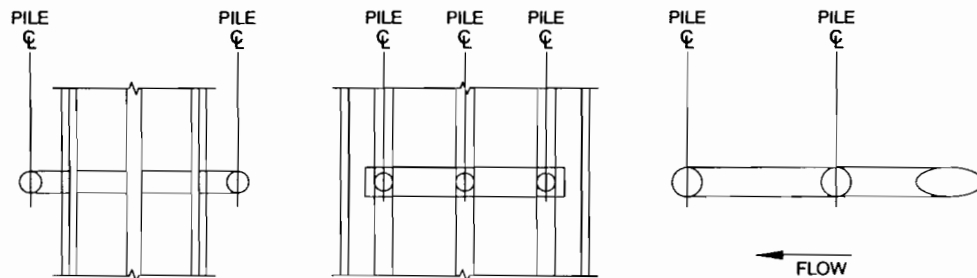
BP EXPLORATION (ALASKA) INC.

LIBERTY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
POTENTIAL SAGAVANIRKOTOK RIVER
NEW BRIDGE OPTION
ELEVATION

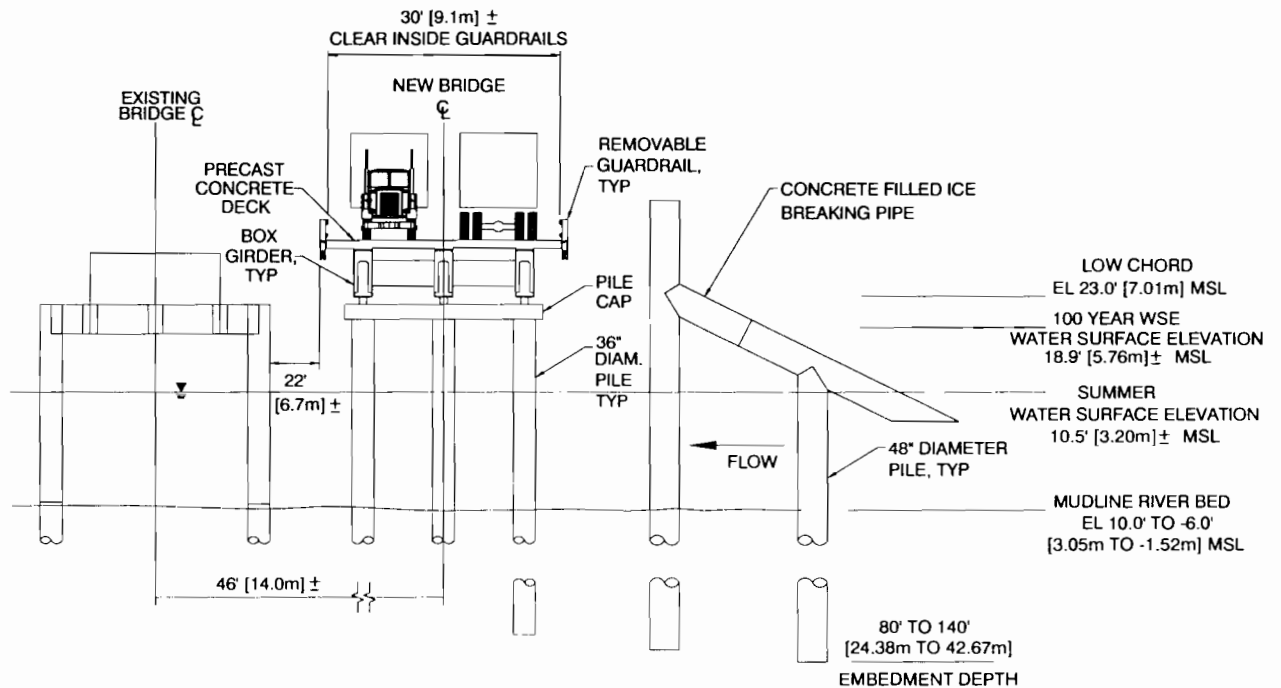
DATE:
April 2007

SCALE:
NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE:
4 OF 5



PLAN



ELEVATION

BP EXPLORATION (ALASKA) INC.

LIBERTY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
POTENTIAL
SAGAVANIRKTOK RIVER BRIDGE
PIER PLAN AND ELEVATION

DATE:
April 2007

SCALE:
NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE:
5 OF 5